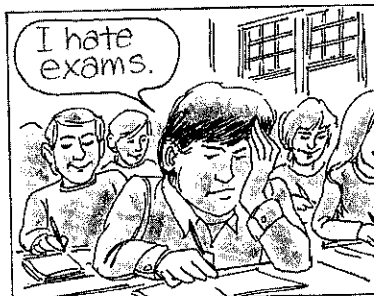


I like music I hate exams



(not "the music")



(not "the exams")



(not "the meat")

A the

Do not say **the** for general ideas:

- I like **music**. (= music in general)
- I like **classical music**. (= classical music in general)
- We don't eat **meat** very often. (not "the meat")
- **Life** is not possible without **water**. (not "the life / the water")
- I hate **exams**. (= exams in general)
- Do they sell **foreign newspapers** in that store?
- I'm not very good at writing **letters**.

Do not say **the** for games and sports:

- My favorite sports are **tennis** and **skiing**. (not "the tennis / the skiing")

Do not say **the** for languages or academic subjects (**history/geography/biology/physics**, etc.):

- Do you think **English** is difficult? (not "the English")
- Tom's brother is studying **physics** and **chemistry**.

B the and the

- **Flowers** are beautiful. (= flowers in general)
but Your garden is very nice. **The flowers** are beautiful. (= the flowers in your garden)
- I don't like **cold weather**. (= cold weather in general)
but **The weather** isn't very good today. (= the weather today)
- Are you interested in **history**?
but Are you interested in **the history of your country**?
- We don't eat **steak** very often. (= steak in general)
but Thank you for dinner. **The steak** was delicious!



Exercises

5.1 What do you think about these things? Begin your sentences with:

I love ... / I like ... / I don't mind ... (= it's okay) / I don't like ... / I hate ...

1. (exams) *I hate exams.*
2. (dogs)
3. (hard work)
4. (Italian food)
5. (loud music)
6. (small children)
7. (meat)
8. (staying in hotels)
9. (jazz)
10. (big cities)

5.2 Are you interested in these things? Write sentences with:

I'm very interested in ...	I know a lot about ...
I'm interested in ...	I don't know much about ...
I'm not interested in ...	I don't know anything about ...

1. (history) *I'm very interested in history.*
2. (politics)
3. (sports)
4. (art)
5. (astronomy)
6. (economics)

5.3 Look at the underlined words in these sentences. Which is right (the or ~~the~~)?

1. Potatoes / ~~The potatoes~~ are not expensive. (Potatoes is right.)
2. This is a good meal. Potatoes / ~~The potatoes~~ are wonderful! (The potatoes is right.)
3. Everybody needs friends / ~~the friends~~.
4. I never drink coffee / ~~the coffee~~.
5. "Where's coffee / ~~the coffee~~?" "It's on the shelf."
6. Jane doesn't go to parties / ~~the parties~~ very often.
7. Tennis / ~~The tennis~~ is a very popular sport.
8. We went for a swim in the river. Water / ~~The water~~ was very cold.
9. I don't like swimming in cold water / ~~the cold water~~.
10. You should visit the museum. Paintings / ~~The paintings~~ are very beautiful.
11. Money / ~~The money~~ doesn't always bring happiness / ~~the happiness~~.
12. English / ~~The English~~ is the language of international business.
13. Children / ~~The children~~ learn things / ~~the things~~ very quickly.
14. Excuse me, can you pass salt / ~~the salt~~, please?
15. I enjoy eating in restaurants / ~~the restaurants~~.
16. Do you like music / ~~the music~~ this band is playing?
17. I enjoy taking photographs / ~~the photographs~~. It's my hobby.
18. Look at photographs / ~~the photographs~~ I took when I was on vacation.